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case in better condition for appeal by reducing the matters necessary for consideration upon such appeal.

Claims 1-8 are in the application.

Claims 1-7 have been finally rejected.

Claim 8 stands withdrawn as being drawn to a non-elected species.

The Examiner has objected to Claim 6.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Claim 5, cancel "said article holders each includes article securement means and wherein".

Claim 6, last line, change "base holder" to --article holder--.

REMARKS

The rejection of Claims 4-7 as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 112 is again respectfully traversed. It appears that the Examiner is now contending that Claims 4-7 are calling for something not disclosed in the application. The Examiner states that "with respect to claim 4, neither the specification nor the drawings described or showed the system of Claim 3 including a pair of base units connected by connector means, an article holder connected to each of the base units,

angular adjusting means of the article holders relative to its respective base unit, in addition to article securement means on each of the article holders including strap means." Applicant notes that elements 96 and 98 of the drawings are bifurcated arms of a base holder and that strap 110 (or 170) extends over the bifurcated arms to hold them against a secured article. Certainly, the term "bifurcated arms" is broad enough to include the arms 96 and 98 as well as the arms 138 and 140. Additionally it is noted that each of the bifurcated arms is disclosed as having article securement means such as the members 100 on the arms 96 and 98 and fingers 144 on the arms 138 and 140. These securement means are in addition to straps extending over the bifurcated arms.

Clearly, also, the splined connection described in the specification and shown in the drawings provides means for rotational adjustment between base and article holder. See in th this regard page 2, lines 6-8, for example.

It is proposed that Claim 5 be amended to cancel the double recitation of article securement means.

The rejection of claims 1 and 2 under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by the patent to Wolker is again traversed. Once again applicant notes that Wolker does not show or even suggest the claimed

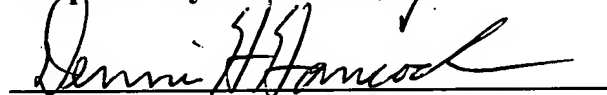
cooperating splined members. Applicant's splined members are clearly shown in the drawings to be splined such that as the members are assembled they can be rotated with respect to one another and then when assembled they are locked with respect to one another. This is not possible with the device of Wolker wherein one of the assembled members is always able to rotate with respect to one another.

The rejection of Claim 4 under 35 USC 103(a) is also again traversed for the reasons set forth above establishing that the Examiner's interpretation of the reference is improper.

Reconsideration and allowance of the Claims as proposed to be amended are requested.

A set of the Claims, as proposed to be amended is submitted herewith as Attachment "A".

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis Hancock", is written over a horizontal line. There is a checkmark to the right of the signature.

Dennis Hancock

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January 9, 2003

ATTACHMENT "A"

CLAIMS

- 1. A holding base system comprising**
at least one base unit including
a platform;
means for securing said platform to a surface;
an exteriorly splined shaft extending from said
platform; and
an article holder including
an interiorly splined socket fitting over and
cooperating with said exteriorly splined shaft,
and bifurcated arms extending from opposite
sides of said socket.
- 2. A holding base system as in Claim 1, wherein**
said bifurcated arms each have at least one flexible
vane extending inwardly towards an opposite one of
said bifurcated arms and towards said socket.

3. A holding base system including

a pair of base units;

**connector means interconnecting said pair of base
units;**

an article holder secured to each of said base units;

and

**means for adjusting the angular relationship of at
least one of said article holders relative to the
base unit to which said base holder is secured.**

4. A holding base system as in Claim 3, wherein

**said article holders each includes article securement
means, and wherein**

**at least one of said article securement means includes
strap means to pass over an article to be
secured and to be fastened to said securement
means.**

5. A holding base system as in Claim 4, wherein

**at least one of said article securement means includes
a pair of bifurcated arms.**

6. A holding base system as in Claim 5, wherein

**each of said article securement means includes a pair
of bifurcated arms.**

7. A holding base system as in Claim 6, wherein

**each of said bifurcated arms includes at least one
flexible vane extending towards the other of said
bifurcated arms and towards the base unit to which
the bifurcated arms are secured.**